

economic growth. Their tax scheme would make it impossible to continue to pay down and eventually eliminate the debt we have by 2015 as proposed by our President.

My colleagues across the aisle would have us believe that their efforts are to support Social Security, but this is not so. Their tax cut does not cut it.

REPUBLICANS PUT PRIORITY ON SAVING SOCIAL SECURITY AND MEDICARE

(Mr. ROGAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ROGAN. Mr. Speaker, I would begin by reminding my friend from California that the Democrats controlled this Chamber for 40 years, and in that 40-year period, they put not one penny into the Social Security trust fund. They used the Social Security trust fund for government spending programs.

Now, for the first time in 40 years, Republicans are in control of the Chamber. We campaigned on a tax cut for working families after we protected Social Security, after we protected Medicare. Because of Republican spending priorities, we now have for the first time since Neil Armstrong walked on the Moon a surplus economy. That did not come from liberal profligate spending. That came from Republican proposals that put a priority on Social Security, put a priority on Medicare, put a priority on jobs and put a priority on protecting the paychecks of working families in this country.

That is what Americans voted for in 1994, in 1996 and 1998. As we approach the year 2000, Mr. Speaker, we are going to give them that opportunity again.

CHINA

(Mr. BROWN of Ohio asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, 2 days ago, the Communist Chinese government once again had its way with this Congress when this body voted trading privileges for perhaps the most repressive, corrupt regime in the world. American CEOs and Washington attorneys again had their way with Congress even though we have a trade deficit with China of \$65 billion and growing annually.

Beijing and its Communist Party leaders again had their way with this Congress this week even though this Communist Chinese government supports forced abortions, persecution of Christians and Muslims, sale of nuclear technology to Pakistan, child labor and slave labor.

But there was good news, Mr. Speaker, in the vote this week. The vote was

closer than it had been in many, many years. Members of this body are beginning to understand and beginning to show that they care about human rights, care about nuclear proliferation, and care about democracy in China.

All of us need to demand that China enter the family of nations before they enter the World Trade Organization.

WICHITA NAMED ALL-AMERICAN CITY

(Mr. TIAHRT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Speaker, some people think all the wise and good people are inside the Washington Beltway, but, of course, that is not right as each and every day ordinary people in communities all across this great Nation join together to do extraordinary things.

The City of Wichita, Kansas, led by its outstanding mayor and my friend, Bob Knight, was recently named an All-American City by the National Civic League. This is a great honor and one worthy of mention here on the floor of the People's House.

The three programs the city of Wichita submitted in its winning All-American City application are Wichita's Promise: The Alliance for Youth; Wichita Independent Neighborhoods; and the Cessna 21st Street Learning and Work Campus.

These programs are volunteer driven and do the hard work and sometimes thankless work of making our Nation better by making our communities better, one at a time. I want to publicly thank everyone associated with each of these organizations because, thanks to you, Wichita is an All-American City and America is a better place to live.

SALUTE TO LANCE ARMSTRONG, WINNER OF TOUR DE FRANCE

(Mr. HOYER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, we have again seen the face of courage. It is Lance Armstrong's.

Lying in his hospital bed just 3 years ago, Mr. Armstrong was fired by his French bicycle racing team. He suffered from testicular cancer and was given less than a 40 percent chance of survival.

He underwent two operations and 12 weeks of chemotherapy, but he refused to succumb and now has prevailed by winning the Tour de France last Sunday.

Lance Armstrong was not alone on this long journey back. The one team willing to take a chance on Mr. Armstrong was sponsored by the United

States Postal Service. The Postal Service deserves great credit.

This wonderful story reminds me of a poem by another American trailblazer, Amelia Earhart. She wrote:

Courage is the price that life extracts for granting peace.

The soul that knows it not knows no release from little things;

knows not the livid loneliness of fear, nor mountain heights where bitter joy can hear the sounds of wings.

Lance Armstrong knows both and inspires us all.

AGRICULTURE CRISIS

(Mr. EWING asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. EWING. Mr. Speaker, there is an ag crisis. The cause is excessive world production and lost markets that we counted on. The result has been reduced exports and disastrously low commodity prices.

Can the great economic engine of America continue to move on and up with the enormous agricultural engine pulling the other way? I doubt it.

On this issue, Congress has acted and must act again. We have done things to open new markets: The NTR vote this week, anti-embargo legislation which we passed in this House, unilateral sanction reform, tax reform, capital gains, estate tax, which are good for our farmers.

But when we come back from the recess, we are going to have to take up, if we have not already passed, the crop insurance reform bill, and we are going to have to deal with emergency lost market payments and adequate financing for our American farmers. Let us not forget this enormous part of our agricultural economy.

REPUBLICAN TAX BILL OUT OF STEP WITH AMERICAN PEOPLE

(Ms. DELAURO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, we have a projected Federal surplus, the first in three decades. We must be responsible. We must use that surplus so that it reflects our values as a people and as a Nation. Sadly, the Republican leadership would rather give whopping tax breaks to the wealthiest Americans.

Instead of reasonable tax relief targeted to working, middle-class families, the House Republican leadership passed a scheme that gives 65 percent of the benefit to the top 10 percent of Americans. Their plan does nothing to extend Social Security by a single day. It dedicates not one penny to strengthening Medicare. It forces deep cuts in education, crime fighting and national